

What is claimed is:

1. A method for assessing the impact of an activity, comprising:
  - (a) identifying a plurality of quantifiable indicators which together are representative of the impact of said activity;
  - (b) analysing data to assign a value to each of the indicators;
  - (c) converting the value of each said indicator to an indicator score; and
  - (d) compiling the indicator scores to generate a composite score representative of the impact of the activity.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising periodic repetition of steps (a), (b), (c) and (d) to determine how the impact of the activity changes over time.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the value of at least one of said indicators is converted to an indicator score by comparing the indicator quantity obtained in step (b) to a standard value for said indicator.
4. The method of claim 2 wherein, after at least one repetition of steps (a), (b), (c) and (d), the indicator score for at least one of said indicators is obtained by comparing the value obtained in step (b) or the indicator score obtained in step (c) with previously obtained values of the indicator quantity and the indicator score, respectively.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the activity is an industrial or infrastructure development activity and each of said indicators falls into a general category

selected from the group comprising materials, energy, emissions, effluents, by-products, toxics, water use, land use and restoration, health and safety, community involvement and community impacts and other indicators of local relevance.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the industrial or infrastructure development activity comprises a capital project designed to change or expand the operation of an existing facility.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein at least one of said indicator scores is obtained by comparing the value of one of said indicators prior to implementation of the capital project with the value of that indicator after implementation of the capital project.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the scores for a plurality of said indicators are aggregated to obtain an aggregate score for said facility.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein scores for a number of facilities within a division or an organization are aggregated to obtain an aggregate score for the division or the organization.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the aggregate scores are monitored over time to monitor compliance with policies and progress towards sustainability.